

REMARKS

The indication that claims 1 - 3 and 6 - 8 are allowed and that claims 12 and 16 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, is acknowledged.

By the present amendment, independent claim 4 has been amended to incorporate the features of dependent claims 11 and 12 therein, it being noted that objected to claim 12 was interdependent upon claim 11 and claim 4, such that claim 4, as amended, corresponds to objected to claim 12 written in independent form, and claims 11 and 12 cancelled. Applicants submit that claim 4, as amended, should be in condition for allowance. Furthermore, in view of the objection to claim 4 that "the occupancy rate of a conductor is high" is objected to as being indefinite, such limitation has been deleted from claim 4, as originally presented, but in view of the amendment of claim 4 to incorporate the features of claims 11 and 12 therein, any previous indefiniteness in claim 4 should now be overcome.

With respect to the Examiner's objection to claims 13 and 14 in that claims 13 and 14 have the same claim limitation, with claim 13 being dependent upon claim 14, by the present amendment, informalities in claims 13 and 14 have been corrected, with claim 13 being amended to depend from claim 5 while claim 14 depends from claim 4 so that dependent claims 13 and 14, as amended, now provide a different scope of invention. Thus, the objection should be overcome.

Additionally, claims 5, 9 and 10 have been amended to overcome informalities therein, noting that claim 5 has been amended in accordance with the amendment of claim 4 concerning occupancy rate. Additionally, informalities in claims 9 and 10 have been corrected. Thus, applicants submit that claim 4, which represents

objected to claim 12 written in independent form, and its dependent claims, as amended, should now be in condition for allowance.

With respect to objected to claim 16, by the present amendment, claim 16 has been cancelled, and the features thereof have been incorporated into independent claim 15, such that claim 15, as amended, represents objected to claim 16 written in independent form, and claim 15, as amended, should be in condition for allowance together with dependent claims 17 and 18.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, applicants submit that all claims remaining in this application, should now be in condition for allowance and issuance of a notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 501.43506X00), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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